



CITY HALL PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Workshop #1

Thursday, February 16, 2006, 5:00 – 6:30 PM
Tashiro – Kaplan Building
115 Prefontaine Place
Vandenbrink Room

Introductions.....

- PAT members
- Nakano Associates

Project Overview

- Scope, Schedule and Budget Considerations, - Project seeks to implement the Vision for the park established by the Project Advisory Team. The project will include managements. programming/activities, and physical improvements. City Council has provided \$150,000 for initial planning and design. Parks will submit a budget request for 2007 to fund the improvements.
- Programming, Management Physical Improvements – The PAT recommends having a Park Ranger to assist with security and to reach out to visitors and provide information. Activities will include some lunchtime concerts and events.
- Downtown Park and Open Spaces Task Force – The project is being coordinated with the Task Force's work. <http://www.seattle.gov/parks/projects/downtown.asp>
- Vision – See web site
- Questionnaire Results – See Web Site

Design Concepts Explored, Nakano.....

- Alternative concepts – Nakano Associates explained the concepts (shown on the web site) that they and the PAT have explored. They discussed the intent and pros and cons for each.
- Comments – Attendees comments contained the following themes
 - You don't need to make expensive improvements. Increasing activities in the park will make the space better. It was well used during the brown bag series held in the 1990's.
 - Keep more green and have less pavement.
 - The trees are beautiful – keep them
 - The park is beautiful as is.
 - Make sure the park is open to everyone including the homeless. Need to identify activities for everyone.
 - Security presence is needed for a broad range of users to feel comfortable.
 - A "Park Ranger" needs to be trained to deal with the array of users. You can't expect someone with no background in social services to be good.
 - Talk more with homeless and social service providers in the area.
 - Pedestrian circulation (especially the diagonal movement needs to be facilitated.
 - Food vending would be good
 - If you add food vendors and prohibit free meal distribution that is "rude" to the homeless and less fortunate.

Direction from Here.....

- Parks will develop a new option and bring it to the community later in the spring

Contact Information:

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